

HB 1513 -- ANIMAL RIGHTS

SPONSOR: Franz

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on General Laws by a vote of 10 to 3.

This bill prohibits any state law from providing an animal a right, privilege, or legal status that is equivalent to or exceeds those of a human being.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2013, FY 2014, and FY 2015.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that there is a need to statutorily define what an animal is to prevent negative implications from occurring for agriculture in the state.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Franz; Missouri Pork Association; Missouri Federation of Animal Owners; Missouri Farm Bureau; Missouri Family Network; Missouri Cattlemen's Association; Missouri Farmers Care; Missouri Corn Growers Association; Kathy Bettes, Kennel Spotlight Magazine; Rae Lynn Mercer; Lex Smith; Cathy Blacklock; Myra Burrow; Rose Marlow; Pam Middleton; John Self; Sharon Lavy; and Hubert Lavy.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.